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*Office of Aviation Safety*

# **Bali Hai Helicopter Tours Bell 206B, Kalaheo, Hawaii**

Human Performance  
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# Local Weather Challenges

- Unusually challenging local climate
- Weather briefings of limited use
- Local flying experience important



# Pilot Experience

- Experienced helicopter pilot
- Less than 2 months flying on Kauai
- Company training focused on helicopter, tour routes, and SFAR 71
- No formal company weather training

# Need for Training

- Pilot's decision indicates poor assessment
- No FAA guidance to help companies train pilots to better utilize local cues
- Human factors research indicates such training can improve in-flight decisions



# Pilot-Scheduling Practices

- Pilots often at controls 8 hours
- No restroom facilities
- No scheduled rest breaks
- No scheduled lunch break



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# Pilot's Schedule

- 8.7 hours on duty
- 7.7 hours sustained operations
- Mix of low-level and higher altitude flight
- Deteriorating weather
- Witness reports



# Impact of Pilot's Schedule

- Increased risk of dehydration
- Increased risk of physiological distractions
- Increased risk of fatigue
- Adverse impact on decision-making and performance



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